

EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORTS 2003 – 2004.

1. SUMMARY

Internal Audit has prepared an up to date list of all external audit management reports produced by Audit Scotland in 2003 - 2004 for which recommendations remain to be implemented. (See Appendix 1). Internal Audit has performed a review of the progress being made by management in implementing these outstanding recommendations the results are detailed below.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The contents of this report are noted and are to be followed up by Internal Audit.

3. DETAILS

3.1 Audit Scotland issued a report in March 2004 entitled Regularity & Governance (1) – Property Asset Management 2003 - 2004. This report is a result of a joint review between Audit Scotland and Internal Audit covering the Council's arrangements for Asset Accounting and Asset Management. The Executive Summary and Action Plan are appended in Appendix 2. As at 23 April 2004 there are 15 recommendations to be implemented. Of this 4 have an implementation date of 30 April 2004. Internal audit has been advised by management that implementation will take place week commencing 3 May 2004. Once implementation is confirmed for the 4 recommendations this report will be amended.

3.2 The Head of Infrastructure & Transport advised internal audit regarding 5 recommendations for the Chief Asset Manager that it is taking longer than had initially been anticipated to recruit a Chief Asset Manager and consequently implementation will be delayed. An initial implementation date of 30 September 2004 for 2 recommendations has been moved back to 31 December 2004. Internal Audit will continue to monitor progress with all recommendations. (See Appendix 2).

3.3 A report entitled Prudential Code was issued in March 2004 by Audit Scotland. The report covers the Council's arrangements in complying with the Prudential Code of Practice for Capital Finance in Local Authorities. As at 23 April 2004 there are 7 recommendations to be implemented. Internal Audit have been informed by management that implementation remains on going. The Executive Summary and Action Plan are appended in Appendix 3.

4. CONCLUSIONS

Implementation of recommendations will continue to be monitored by Internal Audit.

5.	IMPLICATIONS	
5.1	Policy:	None
5.2	Financial:	None
5.3	Personnel:	None
5.4	Legal:	None
5.5	Equal Opportunities:	None

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